

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 10(A)(10)


TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: August 23, 2012

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution calling a special election for the purpose of submitting to the electors the question of whether to amend the Home Rule Charter regarding petition and recall process reform

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda by the County Attorney's Office, pursuant to the direction in Resolution No. R-253-12.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/smm



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☒ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- ☐ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 10(A)(10)
8-23-12

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION CALLING A COUNTYWIDE SPECIAL ELECTION IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH A GENERAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO AMEND THE HOME RULE CHARTER REGARDING PETITION AND RECALL PROCESS REFORM

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners pursuant to Section 9.07 of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter desires to place the attached Charter amendment before the electors of Miami-Dade County on the November 6, 2012 General Election ballot,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. A countywide special election is hereby called and shall be held in Miami-Dade County, Florida in conjunction with a General Election on Tuesday, November 6, 2012, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of Miami-Dade County the proposal for amendment to the Home Rule Charter in the form attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Section 2. Notice of such election shall be published in accordance with Section 100.342, Florida Statutes.

Section 3. The result of such election shall be determined by a majority of the qualified electors of Miami-Dade County voting upon the proposal. The polls at such election shall be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on the day of such election. All qualified electors of Miami-Dade County, Florida shall be entitled to vote at said election. The County registration books shall remain open at the Office of the Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections until twenty-nine (29) days prior to the date of such election, at which time the registration books will

close in accordance with the provisions of general election laws. The question shall appear on the ballot in substantially the following form:

CHARTER AMENDMENT REGARDING PETITION AND
RECALL PROCESS REFORM

SHALL THE CHARTER BE AMENDED TO:

- ELIMINATE THE REQUIREMENT THAT CIRCULATORS OF AN INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM OR RECALL PETITION MUST ATTACH A SWORN AFFIDAVIT STATING THE NUMBER OF SIGNERS AND THE FACT THAT EACH SIGNATURE WAS MADE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE CIRCULATOR OF THE PETITION; AND
- REQUIRE THAT RECALL PETITIONS SHALL STATE THE CAUSE FOR RECALL IN NO MORE THAN 25 WORDS?

YES ☐

NO ☐

Section 4. The form of the ballot shall be in accordance with the requirements of general election laws.

Section 5. Early voting shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of general election laws.

Section 6. Absentee paper ballots may be used by qualified electors of Miami-Dade County for voting on this question. The form of such absentee ballot shall be in accordance with the requirements prescribed by general election laws.

Section 7. A sample ballot showing the manner in which the question or proposal aforesaid will appear at this election shall be published and provided in accordance with the applicable provisions of general election laws.

Section 8. This special election on the proposal aforesaid shall be held and conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of the general laws relating to elections and the provisions of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter. The County Mayor or his or her designee, the Finance Director, and the Clerk of the County Commission are hereby authorized and directed to take all appropriate actions necessary to carry into effect and accomplish the provisions of this resolution. This election shall be a nonpartisan election. Election officials in connection with this election shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of general election laws.

Section 9. This election shall be canvassed by the County Canvassing Board, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.07 of the Home Rule Charter.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner ,
who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner
and upon being put to a vote, vote was as follows:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman	
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Lynda Bell
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 23rd day of August, 2012. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Oren Rosenthal

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER

ARTICLE-8¹

INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL

SECTION 8.01. INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM.

The electors of the county shall have the power to propose to the Board of County Commissioners passage or repeal of ordinances and to vote on the question if the Board refuses action, according to the following procedure:

1. The person proposing the exercise of this power shall submit the proposal, including proposed ballot language to the Clerk of the Circuit Court who shall without delay approve as to form a petition ~~[[for circulation]]~~ in one or several copies as the proposer may desire. A public hearing shall be held on the proposal at the next Board of County Commissioner meeting subsequent to the date the Clerk approves the petition as to form.
2. The person or persons ~~[[circulating]]~~>>initiating<< the petition shall, within 120 days of the approval of the form of the petition, obtain the valid signatures of voters in the county in numbers at least equal to four percent of the registered voters in the county on the day on which the petition is approved, according to the official records of the County Supervisor of Elections. In determining the sufficiency of the petition, no more than 25 percent of the valid signatures required shall come from voters registered in any single county commission district. Each signer of a petition shall place thereon, after his name, the date, and his place of residence or precinct number. ~~[[Each person circulating a copy of the petition shall attach to it a sworn affidavit stating the number of signers and the fact that each signature was made in the presence of the circulator of the petition.]]~~

* * *

SECTION 8.02. RECALL.

Any member of the Board of County Commissioners, the Mayor, the Property Appraiser, the Sheriff or Constable maybe removed from office by the electors of the county, district, or municipality by which he was chosen. The procedure on a recall petition shall be identical with that for an initiatory or referendary petition, except that:

1. The Clerk of the Circuit Court shall approve the form of the petition>>, which shall state the cause for recall in no more than 25 words<<.

¹Words stricken through and/or ~~[[double bracketed]]~~ shall be deleted. Words underscored and/or >>double arrowed<< constitute the amendment proposed. Remaining provisions are now in effect and remain unchanged.